

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARIS 04789 241912Z

53

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07

L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

AID-05 NIC-01 /068 W

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R 241823Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6954

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

INFO AMEMBASSY TANANARIVE

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

CINCLANT

CINCUSNAVEUR

COMIDEASTFOR

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 04789

DEPT PASS DIA

PRETORIA PLEASE PASS AMEMBASSY TANANARIVE

CINCLANT AND CINCUSNAVEUR FOR POLADS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, PFOR, FR, MA

SUBJECT: REPORTED FRENCH ROLE IN RECENT MALAGASY
REBELLION

REF: TANANARIVE 308

1. DURING RECENT DISCUSSION WITH EMBOFF, QUAI DEPUTY
DIRECTOR FOR AFRICA REMOVILLE GAVE CLEAR IMPRESSION THAT
FRENCH GOVERNMENT VIEWS MALAGASY REBELLION AS THE
LATEST EPISODE IN THE CONTINUING POWER STRUGGLE BETWEEN
(A) COTIERS AND OTHER TRIBES, AND (B) MODERATES AND
RADICALS. REMOVILLE DESCRIBED MALAGASY POLITICS SINCE
TSIRANANA'S OVERTHROW AS CYCLICAL, WITH PREDOMINANCE
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PAGE 02 PARIS 04789 241912Z

SWINGING TEMPORARILY FROM ONE ETHNIC GROUP TO ANOTHER

AND, MORE IMPORTANTLY, FROM RADICALS TO MODERATES, AND THEN BACK AGAIN. HE IMPLIED THAT THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT BELIEVES THAT NO EXTERNAL POWER CAN PLAY AN EFFECTIVE, CONSTRUCTIVE ROLE IN SUCH A SITUATION AND, NATURALLY, DID NOT MENTION ANY FRENCH OFFICIAL OR OTHER ROLE IN THE RECENT REBELLION.

2. AS SUGGESTED BY REFTEL, FRENCH DO HAVE RADIO CAPABILITIES AND HAVE BEEN IN EASY COMMUNICATION WITH TANANARIVE THROUGHOUT RECENT EVENTS, A FACT REMOVILLE FREELY ADMITTED AND WHICH IS DOUBTLESS KNOWN TO THE MALAGASY GOVERNMENT.

3. WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO PASS TO THE QUAI THE INFORMATION GIVEN IN PARAS 1-4 AND 6 OF REFTEL AND REQUEST AUTHORIZATION TO DO SO.
RUSH

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Message Attributes

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